

10 Ways

to HELP your Child enter MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 1 Start talking about the differences between elementary and middle school early—and with honesty.
- 2 Give your child more responsibilities for decision-making tasks at home as preparation for increased deadlines in middle school.
- 3 Supplement schoolwork with additional reading and writing projects at home in readiness for lengthier school assignments.
- 4 Talk about the fun of changing rooms and teachers several times a day. Explain that each class is a separate subject.
- 5 Help your child understand that students have to adapt to different teachers, not the other way around.
- 6 Visit the middle school several times together to help your teen become comfortable with the changes from his or her current school.
- 7 Attend all new school orientations. Make the transition seem like an adventure and a step forward in your youngster's education.
- 8 Discuss the fact that your child is moving from being the "top dog" to the bottom of the ladder—preparation makes it easier.
- 9 Find out who your child's teachers will be and see if you can make appointments to meet them prior to the new year.
- 10 Make a list together of your child's expectations for middle school. Make a plan to ensure that the expectations are met.

Remember

Your enthusiasm and support can help make this BIG change in your child's school life a positive one.